ID270

Examination of records at the DBER disclosed a copy of a letter from Patricia W. Durbin, Donner Laboratory, Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, dated December 10, 1971, to Dr. J. D. Goldstein, Director of Biology and Medicine, AEC, concerning a proposal to secure excretion and possibly blood samples from three persons who had been injected with plutonium during 1945-1946.

Mrs. Durbin furnished a copy of a memorandum dated December 17, 1971, which she wrote to Dr. James L. Born, Director, Donner Laboratory, which is in part as follows:

* * * *

"I had a nice chat on the telephone with Dr. Goldstein this morning about the Plutonium follow-up. He was very interested and cordial -- I guess my fears were roughly like those of the child for the imaginary bogeyman. But as Howard says, 'How long will it last this time?'"

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"He suggested that, if it is decided to go ahead with this project here at Berkeley, we should write up a new 189 form for this program specifically, and they will include it in their midyear review for specific funding."

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Dr. Goldstein, 1440 Walnut Street, Berkeley, California, stated that he discussed the matter with Mrs. Durbin and advised her to discuss it with Dr. Born, who had programmatic responsibilities for the Donner Laboratory activity. He said that he did not consider it appropriate to discuss a program of this type with a subordinate employee unless such program had

the approval of the laboratory director and that he subsequently discussed the matter with Dr. Born. He said that he phoned Dr. Born concerning this matter and got the reaction that he was not too interested in pursuing this matter and that it perhaps could have been done through other channels. He said that in talking to Mrs. Durbin, he advised her that any program would require the approval of Dr. Born and also that if such activity were approved, the appropriate authorization should be secured through the submission of Form 189. He said that he heard no more on this matter and is not aware of the follow-up actions taken.